

Volk, Everett

From: Yashan, Dean [DYashan@mt.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 1:16 PM
To: Fortman, Kristy; Kusnierz, Lisa
Subject: FW: Riparian Health Assessment in TMDLs

Need some help with this response. I seem to recall that we did not focus all that much on the riparian width until recently; or maybe that was somehow integrated into our numbers in the Gallatin or defined to some extent in the implementation section.

From: Guy Alsentzer [<mailto:guy@uppermissouriwaterkeeper.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 04, 2014 12:58 PM
To: Yashan, Dean
Subject: Riparian Health Assessment in TMDLs

Hi Dean,

Hoping you can help answer a question regarding riparian buffer values used in TMDL calculations. As you well know many TMDLs in MT possess a "Riparian Health Assessment" that typically grades vegetated riparian buffers on their ability to trap sediment; classifications are made as "good," "fair" and "poor" with respective reduction efficiencies.

My question is what is the width associated with each category? Not to be confused with the length of a buffer along a riparian zone. Put another way, what is the base width of a "good" "fair" and "poor" buffer in a typical riparian health assessment? I've attached a screenshot of a chart from Attachment C in the Lower Gallatin TMDL to help illustrate my query; the parameters in that chart only appear to describe the length, in miles, of surveyed buffers. Attachment C doesn't include further description of respective widths for classifications.

Thank you in advance for your help!
GA

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Table 2-5. Riparian Health Statistics for the Lower Gallatin River Watershed.

Stream	Parameter	Riparian Condition		
		Poor	Fair	Good
Bear Creek	Length (mi)	0.00	14.76	5.51
	Percent	0%	73%	27%
Bozeman Creek	Length (mi)	2.28	18.56	10.74
	Percent	7%	59%	34%
Camp Creek	Length (mi)	14.97	35.43	0.28
	Percent	30%	70%	1%
Dry Creek	Length (mi)	2.06	29.94	0.46
	Percent	6%	92%	1%
Godfrey Creek	Length (mi)	12.10	2.14	0.00
	Percent	85%	15%	0%
Jackson Creek	Length (mi)	0.00	14.80	0.77
	Percent	0%	95%	5%
Reese Creek	Length (mi)	2.28	12.58	0.00
	Percent	15%	85%	0%
Rocky Creek	Length (mi)	1.98	12.00	1.10
	Percent	13%	80%	7%
Smith Creek	Length (mi)	0.62	11.98	0.00
	Percent	5%	95%	0%
Stone Creek	Length (mi)	0.00	10.83	0.31
	Percent	0%	97%	3%
Thompson Creek	Length (mi)	3.76	10.62	0.00
	Percent	26%	74%	0%